pumilus, thus making it the type of their species. The forehead and horns of a young ox were in the Museum of the Royal Society. Pennant thought that they belonged to his dwarf buffalo, but in his second edition said that he *now* found that they belonged to the Cape ox. Turton, in his account of *Bos pumilus*, made no reference to these horns, which Sir Victor Brooke says (but I do not think he has proved it) are the horns of a young *Bos brachyceros* of Western Africa, and proposes to change the name of this ox to *Bos pumilus* of Turton, established on an *animal* from Morocco, and *not*, as Sir Victor Brooke asserts in his paper, on *the forehead and horns* in the Museum of the Royal Society, the existence of which Turton does not notice. The animal from Morocco he named *B. pumilus* is supposed to be a young or dwarf variety of the common buffalo, and is certainly not the West-African bush-ox (*Bos brachyceros*).

If Sir Victor Brooke cannot see the mistake he has made, I have done my best to enable him to do so; and it is this non-appreciation of such questions that renders his prolix synonymy in various cases useless and misleading.

On Felis colocolo, *Hamilton Smith, F. Cuvier, and Geoffroy.*

By Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S. &c.

Major Hamilton Smith made a figure of an animal "said to have been shot in the interior of Guiana by an officer of Lewenstein's Riflemen, and by him stuffed and sent to England, but which probably never reached its destination." It is represented as a white cat, with various-sized longitudinal brown dashes on its neck and body, with slate-coloured legs and feet, and a slender black tail with numerous white rings.

Of this drawing an account was published in Griffith's 'Animal Kingdom,' in Geoffroy and Cuvier's 'Histoire Naturelle des Mammifères' (where the animal is said to come from Surinam), and in Jardine's 'Naturalist's Library,' iii. p. 256, pl. xxvi., where the legs are erroneously left pale-coloured, though said to be blackish in the description.

I have never seen this cat, and I am not aware of its ever having been seen or of its being in any museum in Europe. It certainly is not the *Felis colocolo* of Molina, from Chili, figured by Philippi, Wiegmann's 'Archiv,' 1870, p. 41, t. i. fig. 7, and t. iii. figs. 1 & 2.

My late friend and teacher, Colonel Hamilton Smith, drew animals most beautifully and with great facility, and made a very large collection of sketches and drawings of them and of antiquities and costumes, which he collected from museums that he visited, and books, and even fragments of skins. Unfortunately, instead of drawing the specimen or the figure of the animal which he examined as it was, he had the habit of improving its attitude, and even of making a beautiful drawing from a bad specimen, or from a fragment of a skin, or from a rough sketch, or from a woodcut or other figure which he found in some old book; and he very often did not mark his drawings whence or how they were obtained; so

that it was difficult to tell their authority. He seldom finished or coloured his sketches at the time he made them, but would mark on the parts of the drawing with the colour that they ought to be (as "red," "white," "black") without indicating the shade. This explains why the figures which are taken from his sketches in the first volume of Jardine's 'Naturalist's Library' (1842) were so erroneously coloured, and makes the determination of some of his figures doubtful. It was this defect that rendered his beautiful and extensive series of sketches of so little value to the zoological student.

On some Remarkable Egg-sacs on an Annelid from the North Sea. By Prof. Karl Möbius.

Several specimens of *Scolecolepis cirrata*, Sars, were captured in the expedition of the 'Pommerania' on the 6th August, 1872, at a depth of 69 fathoms, to the north-east of Scotland. This worm belongs to the family Spioidei. The body-segments are 2·4 millims. broad and 4 millims. deep; they have on each side a foot composed of a large upper and a smaller lower lamina. On the 28 segments of the fore body linguliform branchiæ with long vibratile cilia are placed at the inner border of the upper foot-laminæ. The hinder segments have no branchiæ. All the segments bear long pointed setæ both on the upper and lower foot-plates; on the lower laminæ of the hinder segments there are also uncini; and below and between them some small pouches, having the form of a swallow's nest, are attached. Many of these pouches contain a round mass of eggs, which often projects far beyond the orifice of the pouch. The eggs protruding from the pouches are held together by a net with quadrangular meshes, formed of cords of extremely fine threads. Before the pouches are filled with eggs this net lies in part like a lining within its pouch, and in part on the skin of the worm between the foot-laminæ. As the latter contain many mucus-glands with fine orifices opening externally, we may assume that these glands form the net. The eggs are produced in the body-cavity of the worm, and issue through apertures which traverse the body-wall between the lower foot-laminæ; they then lift the ready prepared net from the skin, and are retained by it upon the body of the worm. The young animals which are developed from the eggs can slip out into the water through the meshes of the net.

We know of many Polychætous Annelids which bear their eggs and young in a sac attached to the ventral surface (e. g. *Autolytus prolifer*, Müll.), one which carries them on the shorter dorsal filaments of its feet (*Syllis pulligera*, Krohn), and one which conceals them beneath folds of skin, developed on the peduncle of the operculum with which it closes its tube (*Spirorbis spirillum*, Pagenst.); but the peculiar arrangement for the protection of the progeny seen in *Scolecolepis cirrata* was previously unknown.—*Schriften des naturwiss. Vereins für Schleswig-Holstein*, Band i., February 2, 1874.